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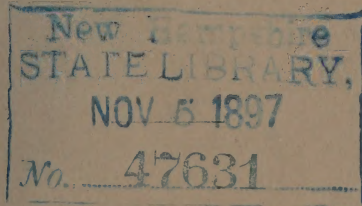
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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
AND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF THE
TOWN OF NEWBURY,
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
ENDING MARCH, 1878.



MANCHESTER, N. H.:
PRINTED BY CAMPBELL & HANSCOM.
1878.

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ANNUAL REPORTS

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AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

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FOR THE FINANCIAL

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TREASURER'S REPORT.

BENJAMIN R. MORSE, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT
WITH THE TOWN OF NEWBURY.

Dr.

1877.

March	19,	Received of Benjamin R. Morse, late town treasurer, . . .	\$433 98
	22,	Received of Joel Gillingham, for use of hall, . . .	1 12
	22,	Received of William W. Muz- zey, for door butts, . . .	72
June	8,	Received of Jason A. Perkins, for one fence post, . . .	25
	21,	Received of S. C. Holt & Sons, for one lamb, . . .	1 60
July	12,	Received of Jason A. Perkins, for grass, . . .	75
	12,	To cash hired of F. S. Muzzey,	200 00
Aug.	1,	To cash received of Dan. H. Patterson, for use of hall, .	2 00
	31,	Received of Isaac F. Blodgett, for hemlock bark, . . .	20
	31,	Received of the town of War- ner, for the board and nurs- ing of Orie I. Johnson, . .	60 00
Sept.	1,	To cash hired of S. Folsom, .	100 00
	1,	To cash hired of William H. Sawyer, . . .	200 00

	1, To cash hired of M. K. Felch,	30 00
	3, To cash hired of Louisa M. Rowe	150 00
	3, To cash received of Joel Gillingham, collector,	275 00
	28, To cash hired of Josiah B. Colburn,	50 00
Oct.	1, To cash hired of Sam. K. Pike,	50 00
	27, Received of Page W. Cofrin, for clapboards,	1 29
	29, Received of S. K. Pike, for pine boards,	1 55
Nov.	5, Received of Joel Gillingham, collector,	309 00
	8, Received of State, bank tax, 1877,	627 72
	8, Received of State treasurer, literary fund,	63 64
Dec.	3, Received of Joel Gillingham, collector,	415 00
	11, Received of Fowler Brothers, for clapboards,	7 56
	13, Received of William Miller, for use of hall,	2 50
1878.		
Jan.	8, Received of Hiram M. Gillingham, for use of hall,	1 25
	11, Received of Joel Gillingham, collector,	200 00
	12, Received of Joel Gillingham, collector,	250 00
Feb.	20, Received of county, for support of paupers,	245 53
	20, To cash received of Dennis Lear for town warrants,	05
March	1, To cash received of Jonathan Rowe, on tax list of 1873,	4 20

March	1,	To cash received of E. W. Dow, for use of hall,	\$0 50	
	1,	To cash received of George P. Bailey, on taxes of 1874,	1 16	
	1,	To cash received of George P. Bailey, on taxes of 1875,	45 27	
	1,	To cash received of George P. Bailey, interest on taxes of 1875,	1 50	
	1,	To cash received of Joel Gil- lingham, on taxes of 1877,	778 93	
	1,	To cash received of Joel Gil- lingham, interest on list 1877,	10 10	
	2,	To cash hired of Thomas J. Leach, on note,	50 00	
				<hr/> \$4,572 37

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

1877.

April	9,	Paid S. C. Murdough, for labor on road,	\$4 35	
	11,	Paid S. C. Holt & Sons, for la- bor on road in 1876,	13 35	
	13,	Paid George M. Morse, cutting out snow,	2 28	
	13,	Paid John P. Morse, repairing highway,	1 44	
May	6,	Paid Silas W. Dana, for build- ing new bridge,	4 00	
June	9,	Paid Walter F. Colburn, for la- bor on road,	3 84	
	21,	Paid S. C. Holt & Sons, for bridge plank,	9 74	
	21,	Paid John P. Morse, for labor on road and bridges,	11 43	

June	30,	Paid Walter F. Colburn, labor on bridges,	\$2 25
July	6,	Paid Samuel Shaw, trees for railing,	1 25
	7,	Paid Winthrop C. Dudley, for stringers,	1 86
	14,	Paid Jason A. Perkins, for repairing tools,	50
	23,	Paid S. C. Murdough, for labor on road,	1 50
	27,	Paid C. F. H. Woodbury, for labor on road,	1 00
	30,	Paid John G. Evers, for lumber to repair road,	3 00
	30,	Paid B. R. Morse, for labor on road and bridges,	12 22
Aug.	29,	Paid Daniel M. Perkins, for labor on road and bridges,	5 00
Sept.	15,	Paid R. T. Muzzey, for plank stringers and labor,	19 25
	22,	Paid S. K. Pike, for powder and fuse,	1 23
	10,	Paid John Muzzey, for labor with team,	3 84
Nov.	3,	Paid John F. Jones, for labor on road,	1 50
	5,	Paid John P. Morse, for cutting bushes,	2 00
	8,	Paid W. P. Ford & Co., for castings for E. P. Dodge,	2 50
	10,	Paid Emri Rowe, for building road,	5 00
	20,	Paid B. R. Morse, for labor on road and guide boards,	10 30
	28,	Paid Walter F. Colburn, for cutting bushes.	50
Dec.	8,	Paid Page Blake, for labor on	

road,	\$0 65
11, Paid Fowler Brothers, for iron and use of wagon,	2 06
12, Paid S. K. Pike, for cutting bushes,	1 00
15, Paid T. J. Leach, for labor, and plank for bridge, , . . .	11 54
18, Paid Laurel G. Peaslee, for la- bor on road,	7 00
24, Paid C. & C. R. R. Co., for freight on castings, . . .	25

1878.

Jan. 25, Paid Simeon S. Dodge, for split- ting stone,	1 00
Feb. 1, Paid Warren C. Gove, for labor on bridge,	10 35
19, Paid Blood & Peaslee, for la- bor on road,	2 86
28, Paid Nathan S. Johnson, road bill,	11 20
March 1, Paid Nathan B. Bly, for labor on road,	1 69
1, Paid Mason W. Tappan, for trees,	2 00
1, Paid Jonathan Rowe, for labor on road,	4 00
1, Paid Jonathan Perkins, for plank on road,	1 50
1, Paid S. C. Murdough, for labor on road,	75
1, Paid Moody Gillingham, for plank,	62

\$183 60

GUIDE BOARDS.

May	22,	Paid W. W. Muzzy, for making three guide boards, . . .	2 75	
June	6,	Paid Ralph Gilbreath, for paint- ing three guide boards, . .	17 00	
Aug.	31,	Paid Isaac F. Blodgett, for iron, use of wagon,	94	
Sept.	5,	Paid Fowler Brothers, for bolts, use of tools,	3 60	
Dec.	19,	Paid N. C. Lear, for telegraph poles and labor,	3 58	
				<hr/>
				\$27 87

HEN HAWKS AND FOXES.

Nov.	5,	Paid for six hen hawks, . . .	\$1 20	
Feb.	16,	Paid Ira Gillingham, for one fox,	50	
				<hr/>
				\$1 70

COUNTY PAUPER BILLS.

March	19,	Paid Daniel W. H. Ring, for drawing wood to Joseph Ayers,	\$1 50	
	22,	Paid John W. Morse, for aid for Gochia children, . . .	7 36	
April	20,	Paid Samuel K. Pike, for goods Joseph Ayers,	10 91	
	20,	Paid S. K. Pike, for boots for Louis Ayers,	1 25	
	30,	Paid John Gochia, for boarding Gochia children,	12 00	

May	10,	Paid Dr. C. F. Leslie, for medical services for J. Ayers, .	\$7 30
	14,	Paid S. K. Pike, for goods for Gochia children,	1 48
	14,	Paid S. K. Pike, for goods for Louis Ayers,	7 39
	16,	Paid Jacob C. Bailey, for coffin etc. for Phebe French, .	17 50
	16,	Paid John W. Morse, for goods for Joseph Ayers, . . .	4 65
	17,	Paid B. R. Morse, for aid furnished Joseph Ayers, . .	13 50
June	1,	Paid John Gochia, for boarding Gochia children,	9 70
	9,	Paid Thomas J. Leach, for provisions for J. Hoayne, . .	27 45
Aug.	4,	Paid Louis Ayers, to help him to his home,	14 09
Sept.	22,	Paid S. K. Pike, for goods for Joshua Weeks,	10 31
Dec.	17,	Paid David F. Clark, for house rent for Joshua Weeks, .	1 00
Feb.	1,	Paid Auren M. Lewis, for house rent for Joshua Weeks, .	13 25
	6,	Paid Betsey A. Dodge, for boarding Mary Dudley, .	78 00
	6,	Paid Moses Cilley, for moving Joshua Weeks,	2 00
			<hr/> \$240 56

FURNITURE FOR TOWN HALL.

March 16,	Paid John W. Morse, for table and chairs,	\$6 23
-----------	---	--------

	31, Paid C. H. & A. L. Marshall,		
	for stove and pipe, . . .	11	20
May	19, Paid S. K. Pike, for chandeliers		
	and brackets,	15	00
	19, Paid S. K. Pike, for wood,		
	broom and lamp,	1	45
Sept.	5, Paid Fowler Brothers, for set-		
	tees for hall,	150	00
Oct.	3, Paid Hammond & Ayers, for		
	lamps, burners and globes, .	7	00
			<hr/>
			\$190 88

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Sept.	29, Paid Wm. H. Sawyer's note, .	\$201	00
Nov.	6, Moses K. Felch's note, .	30	33
	17, S. K. Pike's note,	50	37
	23, Stephen Folsom's note, .	101	37
Dec.	4, Louisa M. Rowe's note, .	152	25
	8, Fred L. Muzzey's note, .	204	84

1878.

Jan.	12, Paid Olive J. Lear's note, .	161	61
	12, Josiah B. Colburn's note, .	50	87
March	2, John Folsom,	437	14
			<hr/>
			1,389 78

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Paid Silas W. Dana,	District No. 1, .	\$48	75
Milton H. Clark,	" 2, .	69	90
Samuel Shaw,	" 3, .	65	52
Frank J. Peaslee,	" 5, .	193	73
Benj. F. Hoyt,	" 6, .	66	99

Paid Samuel C. Holt,	"	7,	.	\$57	54
Richard T. Muzzey,	"	9,	.	61	16
Charles A. Snow,	"	8,	.	80	52
George O. Gillingham,	"	10,	.	40	69
William S. Hart,	"	11,	.	43	29
Emri Rowe,	"	13,	.	25	55
Oliver Perkins,	"	4,	.	5	87
T. A. J. Jones,	Union district No.				
1, in Bradford,	.	.	.	12	52
					<hr/>
					\$772 03

PAUPER BILLS.

1877.

Sept.	5,	Paid Dr. J. H. Martin, for at-			
		tending W. Bagley,	.		\$5 25
	22,	Paid S. K. Pike, for stores for			
		W. Bagley,	.		85
Jan.	30,	Paid Page W. Cofrin, cloth for			
		W. Bagley,	.		3 58
Feb.	6,	Paid E. C. Morse, for making			
		shirt,	.		50
		Paid Jason A. Perkins, for			
		boarding W. Bagley,	.		74 36
					<hr/>
					\$84 54

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

1877.

March	16,	Paid B. W. Sanborn & Co.,			
		for books and stationery,	.		\$10 21
	22,	Paid Fred H. Gould, for servi-			
		ces as Justice in Bates's case,			6 97
May	9,	Paid B. R. Morse, for cash paid			
		and keeping tramps,	.		8 92

May	19,	Paid Luther Dresser, for land damage,	\$30 00
Aug.	29,	Paid W. W. Muzzey, for boarding O. I. Johnson,	45 00
Sept.	5,	Paid J. H. Martin for medical attendance on Oria I. Johnson,	15 00
	8,	Paid county treasurer, tax for 1877,	569 70
	24,	Paid S. K. Pike, Universal parsonage, money, for 1876-77,	27 25
Nov.	8,	Paid state treasurer, tax for 1877.	600 00
Dec.	15,	Paid Jeremiah Morse, Baptist parsonage, money,	9 64
Jan.	11,	Paid Joshua H. Blodgett, sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
Feb.	23,	Paid J. H. Martin, for making certificates,	2 75
	23,	Paid Vinal Stevens, for water tub,	1 25
	23,	Paid Joseph Lear, for water tub,	3 00
	23,	Paid John H. Farmer, for plow broken on road,	9 76
	28,	Paid B. R. Morse, cash paid for car fare,	10 88
March	1,	Paid Samuel Shaw, sheep killed by dogs,	3 00
	1,	Paid N. P. Blodgett, for damage to colt,	12 00
			<hr/> \$1,269 33

TRAMP BILLS.

Feb. 20,	Paid Underhill, for cloth for beds,	\$1 94	
23,	Paid William W. Muzzy, for keeping tramps,	55 00	
23,	Paid J. L. Pickering, for bed clothes for tramp house, and express,	4 00	
23,	Paid Isaac F. Blodgett, for lum- ber for house,	14 23	
23,	Paid Fred S. Muzzy, for timber and straw,	1 40	
23,	Paid Fowler Brothers, for wood and labor,	1 85	
23,	Paid George M. Morse, labor on tramp house,	3 00	
23,	Paid Page W. Coffin, for nails, crackers and fish,	2 20	
26,	Paid George E. Kidder, for labor on tramp house,	65	
27,	Paid S. K. Pike, for stovepipe, one damper and labor,	2 45	
March 1,	Paid James M. Blodgett, for labor on tramp house,	50	
1,	Paid Ezra Cilley, 2d, for one stove for tramp house,	1 50	
			<hr/> \$88 72

TOWN OFFICER'S BILLS.

Paid Sprayne A. Morse, clerk,	\$22 26
Benjamin R. Morse, treasurer,	10 00
Benjamin R. Morse, 1st selectman,	58 70
Daniel M. Perkins, 2d selectman,	28 87

Paid Thomas J. Leach, 3d selectman,	. \$20 00	
Edwin C. Doyne, constable,	. 8 16	
Joel Gillingham, collector,	. 22 38	
Frank J. Peaslee, Supt. school com- mittee,	. 30 00	
Auditor's bills,	. 3 75	
	<hr/>	\$204 12
Amount received to March 1, 1878,	\$4,572 37	
Amount paid out to March 1, 1878,	4,553 13	
Amt. in the hands of the Treasurer,	<hr/>	\$19 24

BENJAMIN R. MORSE,

Town Treasurer.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

March	1, On Jonathan H. Mason's tax list of 1870,	\$8 37	
	1, On Daniel M. Perkins's, tax list of 1872,	19 47	
	1, On Jonathan Rowe's tax list of 1873,	19 24	
	1, On George P. Bailey's tax list of 1874,	18 94	
	1, On George P. Bailey's tax list of 1875,	22 58	
	1, On Joel Gillingham's tax list of 1877,	3 80	
	Amount,	—	\$92 40

FINANCE OF THE TOWN.

Due	Thomas J. Leach, on note,	\$50 00	
	School districts, literary fund,	63 64	
	School district No. 4, for 1875, 1876 and 1877,	111 66	
	School districts, dog tax for 1876 and 1877,	91 50	
	Religious societies,	12 36	
	Total amount of indebtedness,	—	\$329 16

AMOUNT DUE THE TOWN.

Cash in hands of treasurer,	\$19 24	
Due from George P. Bailey, collector on		
tax list of 1875,	12 66	
Estimated value of town house land, . .	15 00	
		\$46 90
Balance against the town, ———	\$282 26	

BENJAMIN R. MORSE,
DANIEL M. PERKINS,
THOMAS J. LEACH,
Selectmen of Newbury.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We, the undersigned, Auditors of the town of Newbury, have examined the accounts of the treasurer and the books of the selectmen for the past year, and find them in good order, have compared their vouchers, cast their figures, and find them all correct.

CURTIS MESSER,
MOODY GILLINGHAM
HIRAM B. CHENEY,

Auditors.

NEWBURY, March 2, 1878.

REPORT OF THE SUPT. SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The following report upon the educational interests of the town for the school year ending March 12th, 1878, is respectfully submitted. Report by district.

DISTRICT No. 1.—Baker Hill, Silas W. Dana, Prudential Committee. Summer term of six weeks, taught by Hattie C. Page. This being Miss Page's first term, she had not the confidence in her ability to teach which characterizes one who is familiar with the method of instructing. With age and experience she may become an apt teacher.

Winter term of ten weeks, taught by Sarah J. Baker. Considering the teacher's inexperience, (she having taught only 160 months), the school was a perfect success. Miss Baker is certainly adapted by nature to the work, and bids fair to excel in the profession. Already she seems to be perfectly familiar with the teacher's duties. After she has taught another generation, none will be found more competent than she, to welcome the next to the delights of learning and the sweets of school-room toil. Long may she teach. Let the parents of this district bear in mind that the school money is expended for all, and take that attitude toward the school which will insure to them the greatest amount of good.

DISTRICT No. 2.—Milton H. Clark, Prudential Committee. Summer term of six weeks, and fall term of nine weeks, both

taught by Mrs. Ida F. Clark. The patronage of home industry is commendable if you have good material. That the prudential committee had this he was no doubt confident. Mrs. Clark labored faithfully with her pupils. The advancement made was satisfactory.

DISTRICT No 3.—Samuel Shaw, Prudential Committee. Summer term of four weeks, taught by Clara L. Dodge. The appearance of the school when visited was quite satisfactory. No doubt all the progress was made that could be expected under the circumstances. While the school was in session part of the pupils were obliged to be absent on account of sickness, and the fourth week it was found necessary to close the term.

Winter term of twelve weeks, taught by George M. Morse. This was Mr. Morse's first experience in teaching. His success would warrant another trial. A good amount of work was accomplished, especially in mathematics. The attainments of the pupils in this district indicate a good improvement of time for mental culture, both in school and out. Let them have good thorough teachers and the money will be well expended.

DISTRICT No. 4.—No scholars.

DISTRICT No. 5.—Frank J. Peaslee, Prudential Committee. Summer term of ten weeks taught by Alice V. Trow, a teacher devoted to the interests of her scholars. Laboring with diligence and zeal she inspired in the school a love for knowledge and a desire to excel. The result was real and rapid progress. Perfect satisfaction was given to parents, as far as I know, and I presume to the committee also.

Winter term of twelve weeks, taught by E. W. Dow, who was well qualified to instruct, but the discipline was not of as high order as is desirable. Good progress, however, was made in the studies pursued. The first part of the term was especially successful. The last two or three weeks were broken by prevailing colds among the scholars.

DISTRICT No. 6.—B. F. Hoyt, Prudential Committee. Summer term of twelve weeks, winter term of thirteen weeks; both

taught by Mary J. Eaton, a teacher fully alive to the work of educating. The result of her labor for the school year has been that which can be attained only by a good teacher with good pupils, and harmony in the district, viz.: a steady developement of the mind, and rapid growth in knowledge.

DISTRICT No. 7.—Samuel Holt, Prudential Committee. Summer term of twelve weeks, taught by Anna A. Seavey. This was Miss Seavey's first trial at teaching, but on my first visit, seeing how perfectly nature, that good old teacher, had adapted her to the position, I looked for good results, and was not disappointed. Her work was well done.

Fall term of weeks taught by M. F. Lewis. It is not necessary to speak of Mrs. Lewis as a successful teacher, for as such we have long known her. Though the teacher's name has changed, as such things will, the teacher remains the same. Few we find who can straighten the crooked problems better than she, or even the crooked boys if necessary.

DISTRICT No. 8.—Charles A. Snow, Prudential Committee. Summer term of six weeks, fall term of ten weeks; both taught by Lulie R. Billings. Circumstances prevented my attending the examination, but on my other visits to the school I found the discipline good, the instruction thorough and practical. I think the teacher was faithful to her trust, and that a good amount of work was accomplished.

DISTRICT No. 9.—Richard T. Muzzey, Prudential Committee. Fall term of two weeks, taught by Belle C. Brown. A term of six weeks was contemplated, but after two weeks, Miss Brown was called home on account of sickness. The school appeared well when visited, and would no doubt have been a profitable term, if it had been continued.

Winter term of thirteen weeks, taught by Olive Muzzy. Any one attending this examination, might have been assured that the work of educating does not consist in merely teaching the child to read and spell, but rather in feeding the mind on all those little things, which brought together, make the foundation,

and in drawing out the intellect after the material with which to build upon this foundation. This school district is a model.

DISTRICT No. 10.—George Gillingham, Prudential Committee. Fall term of ten weeks. First two weeks taught by Lizzie L. Brown, who would have taught an excellent school, but was prevented by sickness. The district was fortunate in securing the services of Miss Emma Withington, under whose instruction the school made rapid progress and was a success in all respects.

DISTRICT No. 11.—William S. Hart, Prudential Committee. Fall term of ten weeks taught by Alice V. Trow, who, having won the confidence and respect of the district the previous year was thereby enabled to accomplish even more than in the former term. The school is in a very prosperous condition.

DISTRICT No. 13.—Emri Rowe, Prudential Committee. Summer term of ten weeks taught by Orlina Sturdavant, a teacher of considerable talent. She labored dilligently. In most of the branches taught, good progress was made.

Winter term of ten weeks taught by Carrie A. Martin, a good disciplinarian and a thorough teacher.

The parents of this district are commendable for the peaceable attitude they maintain toward the school, showing that they appreciate its blessings too highly to do or say ought detrimental to its welfare.

NAMES OF SCHOLARS NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY EITHER TERM.

District No. 1.—Susan B. Dana, Adah E. Dana.

District No. 2.—Walter H. Ring, Lydia H. Ring, Lura L. Farmer, Elsie J. Farmer.

District No. 3.—Olive E. Woodward.

District No. 5.—Mary A. Bly, Marion S. Morse, Myra L. Jones, Elmer O. Fowler, Cora R. Jones.

District No. 6.—Etta B. Ayer, Mabel N. Bailey, Lula N. Eaton, Maurice Barnard,

District No. 7.—George E. Brockway, Myron F. Fifield, Fred M. Murdough, Mary L. Brockway, Gazie E. Holt, Inez M. Dodge, Carrie A. Holt.

District No. 8.—Hattie D. Sherwin, Alice J. Gove.

District No. 9.—Carrie A. Fifield, Emma F. Nichols, Hannah S. Muzzey, Edwin W. Muzzey, Charles H. Muzzey, Mark W. Muzzey, Norris D. Muzzey, George L. Nichols. Only one mark in the district, and that was not an absent mark.

District No. 10.—Jennie L. Colburn, Cora A. Colburn, Elma F. Loverin, Anna L. Gillingham, Eva L. Gillingham, Frank P. Craig, Alonzo C. Colburn, Willie Colburn.

District No. 11.—Carrie S. Fellows, Leonette Fellows, Alice B. Haynes, Rose M. Blodgett, Clara M. Hart, Elvira E. Adams, Frank A. Hart.

District No. 13. Frank U. Messer, Bertie J. Messer.

Total 50, one third of the entire attendance. Number of visits by Prudential Committees, 17. Number of visits by Superintendent School Committee, 40. Number of visits by parents and others, 311.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In comparing the success of our schools the past year, with that of former years, the result is very gratifying. The standard of scholarship is high in many districts compared with the amount of schooling. Scholars have taken a deep interest in the schools, they have appreciated their opportunities and have been desirous of improving them.

The majority of those who have had charge of our schools the past year, have been true, live, working teachers. Would

that I might say the same of all. The teacher's profession is a noble one; for that reason it is a responsible one. Of all the employments in which one may engage, this one calls for earnest work of brain, heart and hand. One who is content to sit in the school-room for six hours, simply hearing the recitations from the book, and nothing more, has no claim to the title of teacher; it is but an insult to the term. The true teacher trains the mind both intellectually and morally, raising the pupil's step by step, until he is able to think and act for himself; ever bearing in mind, that to his care are intrusted, minds which are like wax to receive impressions, and like marble to retain them. Every teacher is helping educate these minds for the solemn duties of patriots and freemen in the nation. How great then, is the responsibility of the teacher, if he, or she does not keep this object constantly in view, and not only impart to them all the knowledge possible, but let his example before the scholars be such, that he may persuade them to practice all that is good, and shun all that is evil.

The interest manifested by parents in the school year of 1877 has been fully sustained the past year. It is to this interest and hearty co-operation of parents with teachers that we have in a great degree to attribute the success of our schools. The more the harmony in the district and sympathy between parents and teacher, the more profitable the school. With all good, there is some evil. There yet remains with us an evil of most vital importance, which *can* and *must* be eradicated. It is that of keeping children out of school. This is one of the greatest evils that can be practiced by a parent. You not only wrong yourself and your children, but you wrong your country and your fellow-men. As a general thing this negligence exists among the poorer of our inhabitants. These should bear in mind that the common school is a charitable institution.

Do you say that your more wealthy neighbors do nothing for you? They offer you equal privileges with themselves. Many of our largest tax payers have no benefit of the school, save as it benefits the community. You would

wrong these men should you spurn a proffered gift from them, yet you are guilty of a greater wrong if you neglect the privilege of a free school. for if those children whom God has entrusted to your care, and who are to stand forth to perform the duties devolving upon them as citizens of this free country—who are to be pillars of the nation, are allowed to grow up in ignorance, a fearful load of guilt will rest upon the parent. Let the coming year find every child in the school-room, and your homes will be better for it. I make these remarks with charity to all, and malice toward none. Being deeply conscious of my own unsatisfactoriness in discharging the duties devolving upon me as a school officer, I have, however, endeavored to do what I could to stimulate an interest in parents; to awaken enthusiasm in scholars, and rouse teachers to a more faithful performance of duty. In these efforts I have been aided by parents, teachers, scholars and prudential committees. To all these I desire to express my sincere gratitude, and with best wishes for the future welfare of the schools, I close this, my fourth annual report.

FRANK J. PEASLEE,

Supt. School Committee.

NEWBURY, N. H., Feb. 27, 1878.



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